

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FIRST BALLOTS MAILED FOR MAY 5th ELECTION

1092 Ballots Mailed to Military and Overseas Voters

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF. – The first ballots for the May 5th Special Mail Ballot Elections were mailed today to military and overseas voters. Those 1,092 ballots include parcel tax measures for the Palo Alto Unified School District and the Campbell Union School District.

Because this is as an all-mail ballot election, there will not be polling places on Election Day. Instead, all registered voters in the district will automatically be sent a ballot and voter information pamphlet on April 6th. No postage is required to return a ballot in a mail ballot election.

Mail ballot elections typically have voter turnout rates in the 35-45% range. The turnout tends to be higher than most other local special elections but lower than countywide primary or general elections. Special mail ballot elections have become common in Santa Clara County; there have been ten held in the last five years.

Federal and state law requires ballots for voters who live abroad or are on active duty in the military to be sent earlier than other mail ballots. Military and overseas ballots begin mailing somewhere between 60 and 45 days before an election, while ballots for other voters can only be mailed starting 29 days before Election Day.

The last day to register to vote in the election is April 20th and can be done online at [Register to Vote](#). Voters wishing to check their registration status may do so on the website at [Check Your Registration Status](#).

Voters should complete a new registration form if they have moved, changed their name, or would like to change their political party preference. To register to vote in Santa Clara County, a voter must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, a Santa Clara County resident, and not in prison or on parole for a felony.

Online registrations will be accepted as long as they are completed before midnight on April 20th, paper registration forms that are postmarked on that date will also be accepted. Paper registration forms are available at post offices, public libraries, fire stations, city halls, and most local government offices.



Additionally, voters wishing to find out if they live within either the Palo Alto Unified School District or the Campbell Union School District can look up their districts using the online tool at [Look Up Your Districts](#).

Palo Alto Unified School District consists of 42,084 registered voters and the Campbell Union School District consists of 43,924 registered voters. Ballots for all voters will begin being mailed on April 6th.

For more information, contact the Registrar of Voters' Office at 1-408-299-VOTE (8683) or toll-free at 1-866-430-VOTE (8683), or visit www.sccvote.org.

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